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Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 IO-13 AID-05 COME-00 /088 W
----------060090 122118Z /72
R 121214Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3667
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY NOUKCHOTT
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, NI, CF, SG, TO, MR, DM
SUBJECT: EXPLULSIONS FROM CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE

REF: DAKAR 6064 (NOTAL)

1. LOCAL PRESS HAS CARRIED REPORTS OF EXPULSIONS OF NIGERIANS, SENEGALESE, TOGOLESE, BENINOIS AND MAURITANIANS FROM THE CONGO. NUMBER OF VARIOUS NATIONALS AND REASONS FOR EXPULSIONS ARE UNKNOWN; HOWEVER, DAILY TIMES QUOTES A "SOURCE CLOSE TO THE CONGOLESE EMBASSY IN LAGOS" AS SAYING THAT THE OBJECTIVE WAS A "CLEANSING OPERATION" DESIGNED TO RID THE CONGO OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

2. NIGERIAN CHARGE TURKURA WAS CALLED HOME, THURSDAY,

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SEPTEMBER 8 AND MEA HAS CONTACTED THE CONGOLESE EMBASSY IN LAGOS FOR CLARIFICATION. AT AN AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE MAN SATURDAY COMMISSIONER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BRIGADIER JOSEPH GARBA STATED FMG HAD LAUNCHED "DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MANEUVERS" BE ASSURE THAT NIGERIANS EXPELLED FROM THE CONGO WOULD RECOVER THEIR PROPERITES OR RECEIVE MONETARY COMPENSATION. HE ALSO NOTED THE CONGOLESE

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GOVERNMENT HAD NOT INFORMED FMG OF ITS ACTION BEFORE IT STARTED AIRLIFTING NIGERIANS FROM BRAZZEVILLE AND ADDED, "IF WE HAD ENOUGH WARNING, WE WOULD HAVE TAKEN THE NECESSARY STEPS TO APPEAL TO THE CONGOLESE GOVERNMENT TO RESCIND THE DECISION." GARBA SAID THAT CASES OF MASS EXPLUSION OF ALIENS FROM AFRICAN COUNTRIES ARE "RAPIDLY BECOMING TOO DANGEROUS FOR THE DESIRED UNITY OF AFRICA." ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT PROVIDE DETAILS, GARBA SAID THAT SUCH ACTIONS HAVE AFFECTED NIGERIANS IN OTHER COUNTRIES (GHANA 1969, ZAIRE 1971, EQUATORIAL GUINEA 1974) AND AS A RESULT THE FMG HAD WORKED OUT PLANS TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM. HE ALSO NOTED THAT A NUMBER OF NIGERIANS EARLIER EXPELLED FROM ZAIRE HAVE SINCE RETURNED.

3. LOCAL PRESS CARRIED REPORTS APPARENTLY SIMILAR TO THOSE IN DAKAR'S REFTEL OF TOTALLY UNEXPECTED FORCED OUSTER, MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT RAIDS, LOSS OF GOODS AND CASH AND TEMPORARY DETENTION IN CAMPS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. SOME STORIES ALSO REPORTED THAT NIGERIANS WHO HAD MARRIED CONGOLESE WERE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING OUT WIVES AND CHILDREN.

4. PRESS STATES MOST OF THOSE OUSTED WERE YORUBAS, HAUSASOR NATIVES OF BENDEL STATE. GOVERNMENT IS APPARENTLY ASSISTING THEM TO RETURN TO HOME AREAS WITH SOME HOUSED TEMPORARILY AT TRANSIT PLGRIMS CAMP NEAR AIRPORT.
WYMAN
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 12-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAGOS10467
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770330-0433
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770975/aaaaclbr.tel
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 DAKAR 6064
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1310488
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXPLULSIONS FROM CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE
TAGS: SHUM, NI, CF, SG, TO, MR, DM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/040f8648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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